Washington, D.C. – Congressman Jeff Fortenberry made the following statement on the fiscal cliff and budget negotiations:

"The good news is that tax increases are prevented for the vast majority of hard-working Americans. The Alternative Minimum Tax is permanently fixed from unjustly hitting middle-class families. The Farm Bill is extended for a year, preventing milk prices from skyrocketing. The estate tax issue is settled permanently with no impact on most small business owners and farmers.

"The challenge remains to quickly address the substantial overspending problem in Washington. There will be three more fiscal cliffs coming up: the debt ceiling, a continuing resolution to fund the government, and the sequester, which would provide automatic cuts to the government across the board, substantially affecting the nation's defense. These looming cliffs will force the president and Congress to work together to reduce the way our country spends. We also must pass a long-term Farm Bill that will provide security to Nebraska's farmers and ranchers."

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